



Agenda Report

Arts Commission

Item #: 26-281

Meeting Date: 5/7/2026

TITLE: ART IN PUBLIC PLACES DRAFT ORDINANCE REVIEW
DEPARTMENT: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
PRESENTED BY: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST
CONTACT INFORMATION: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST, (714) 754-5322

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Arts Commission:

1. Review and discuss the updated Art in Public Places Draft Ordinance (Attachment 1), as specified in the Art in Public Places Report and the Arts and Culture Master Plan (Attachment 2).

BACKGROUND:

The Art in Public Places Report was created by consultant, Arts Orange County and was approved by the Arts Commission on April 6, 2023, to address aspects of the Arts and Culture Master Plan's Goal #2: Expand Public Art throughout the City.

The Art in Public Places Report is a comprehensive report of recommendations for programs and policies and provides detailed specifics as to how the six (6) initiatives from the Arts and Culture Master Plan may be executed in the next three (3) years. Each of the components detailed below in the Art in Public Places Report, will be crucial in assisting staff in creating new policies and processes:

1. Public Art Commissioning Process
2. Public Art Collection Management
3. Murals and the Commissioning Process
4. Public Art Donations and the Criteria
5. Public Art inclusion in City Public Works Development Projects
6. Public Art inclusion in Private Development Projects

While numbers one (1) through four (4) are administrative processes administered by staff, numbers five (5) and six (6) involve a financial contribution from either public or private entities and would require a City Council approved ordinance to assure consistent compliance for citywide implementation

The steps for Action 2.2 in the Arts and Culture Master Plan have been presented at previous Arts Commission meetings, utilizing the information and procedural recommendations from the Art in Public Places Report:

- Public Art Criteria and Guidelines to assist with new temporary and permanent public art projects in May 2023
- The Murals on Private Property permit process in June 2023
- Murals on Public Property was presented in October 2023
- Permanent Public Art on Public Property in December 2023 and February 2024, for additional edits
- Public Art Donation Policy in March 2024
- Review of Public Art Funding in May 2025

At the May 1, 2025 meeting, the Arts Commission directed staff to create an Art in Public Places Ordinance modeled after the City of Laguna Beach's ordinance that directs 1% of all funding for public works projects and for private development projects.

ANALYSIS:

The Parks and Community Services Director and staff have met with the Economic and Development Services Director and the Public Works Director to discuss drafting an Arts in Public Places ordinance for a potential City Council review.

Due to these meetings, staff now have additional information in regard to the total valuation of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects (Attachment 3) that take place annually from the city's Public Works Department, and the total valuation of projects occurring annually in the private development sector (Attachment 4). This information will assist the Arts Commission in their discussions about a potential new public art ordinance.

FISCAL REVIEW:

There are currently no costs associated with this process.

LEGAL REVIEW:

There is no legal review required for this report.

CONCLUSION:

1. Staff recommends that the Arts Commission:

Review and discuss the updated Art in Public Places Draft Ordinance, as specified in the Art in Public Places Report and the Arts and Culture Master Plan.